



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

KC MAN SENTENCED IN METH CONSPIRACY

KANSAS CITY, Mo. – Todd P. Graves, United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, announced that a Kansas City, Mo., man was sentenced in federal court today for participating in a conspiracy to manufacture methamphetamine.

Rodney A. Lane, 26, of Kansas City, was sentenced by U.S. District Judge Nanette K. Laughrey this afternoon to five years in federal prison without parole.

On Aug. 30, 2004, **Lane** pleaded guilty to conspiring with others to manufacture five grams or more of methamphetamine between Feb. 1, 2002, and June 3, 2002. **Lane** admitted to assisting in the manufacture of approximately 15 grams of pure methamphetamine by cutting match sticks and providing pseudoephedrine to meth cooks.

On Dec. 2, 2004, co-defendant **Donald R. Swank**, 37, of Kansas City, was sentenced to five years and 10 months in federal prison without parole. On Aug. 4, 2004, **Swank** pleaded guilty to his role in the conspiracy. **Swank** admitted that he conspired to manufacture five grams or more of methamphetamine between Feb. 1, 2002, and June 3, 2002.

On Aug. 26, 2004, co-defendant **Ellen Nicole Wagner**, 20, of Independence, pleaded guilty. **Wagner** admitted that she, too, conspired with others to manufacture five grams or more of methamphetamine between Feb. 1, 2002, and June 3, 2002. **Wagner** admitted that she also assisted in the manufacture of approximately 15 grams of pure methamphetamine by cutting match sticks and providing pseudoephedrine to meth cooks.

This case is being prosecuted by Assistant U.S. Attorney David DeTar Newbert. It was investigated by the Kansas City Metro Meth Task Force.

This news release, as well as additional information about the office of the United States Attorney for the Western District of Missouri, is available on-line at
www.usdoj.gov/usao/mow